

(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 334 904 (13) A

(43) Date of Printing by UK Office 08.09.1999

(21) Application No 9912372.1

(22) Date of Filing 20.11.1997

(30) Priority Data

(31) 9625442

(32) 06.12.1996

(33) GB

(31) 9716052

(32) 31.07.1997

(86) International Application Data

PCT/GB97/03187 En 20.11.1997

(87) International Publication Data

WO98/24548 En 11.06.1998

(51) INT CL⁶

B01L 7/00 , G05D 23/19

(52) UK CL (Edition Q)

B1X X20

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(58) Field of Search by ISA

INT CL⁶ B01L , G05D

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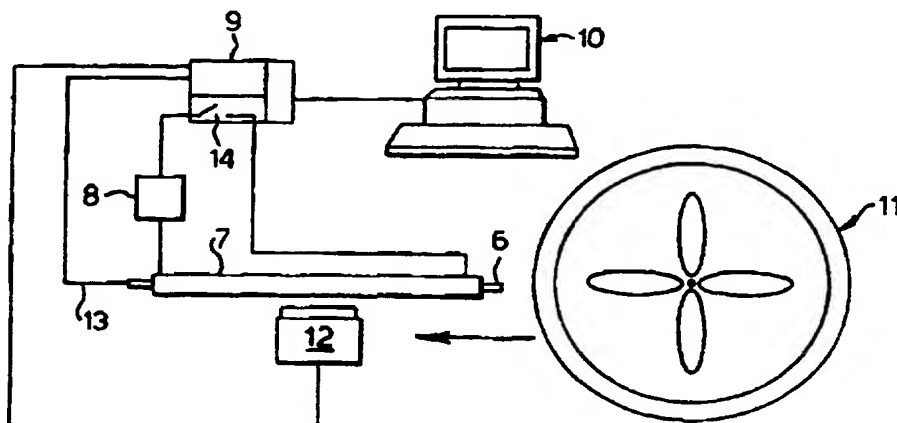
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(54) Abstract Title

Reaction vessels

(57) A reaction vessel for holding reagents is described, which vessel comprises an electrically conducting polymer capable of emitting heat when an electric current is passed through it. Suitably the reaction vessel comprises a reagent container, such as a capillary tube, slide or chip, in close contact with the electrically conducting polymer. For example, the polymer may be in the form of a film which is wrapped around the tube to form a sheath. This provides a readily controllable heating supply which may be heated and cooled to desired temperatures rapidly. An apparatus suitable for thermal cycling reactions, such as the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and comprising one or more reaction vessels as described above, as well as methods for carrying out such reactions are also described and claimed.



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